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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/712,938	11/13/2003	Darshan Timbadia	122467.00701	9539
<div>7590 10/09/2007</div> <div>Pepper Hamilton LLP Firm 21269 One Mellon Center 500 Grant Street, 50th Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15219</div> <div>EXAMINER MOSSER, KATHLEEN MICHELE</div> <div>ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER</div> <div>3714</div> <div>MAIL DATE DELIVERY MODE</div> <div>10/09/2007 PAPER</div>				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/712,938	Applicant(s) TIMBADIA ET AL.	
	Examiner Kathleen Mosser	Art Unit 3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 17-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 17-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

In response to the request for continued examination filed 06/22/2007, claims 1-13 and 17-21 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 03/21/2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 5-10, 13 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kershaw (US 5565316). Kershaw teaches a system including: one or more testing stations (Figure 1, element 3), configured to receive a plurality of test items, display the test items to a user (administering the test), record state information comprising time elapsed from the start of the examination, identification of the test items displayed to the user, and user interactions with the testing stations, and transmitting the state information at substantially the same time that the state information is recorded (the examinee performance file, the content and use of which is described starting at col. 39: 48); a first server computer system in communication with the one or more testing stations, wherein the first server computer system is configured to electronically transmit the test items to the one or more testing stations, receive user

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information and responses to the test items from the one or more testing stations and receive the state information from the one or more testing stations, and electronically store the state information at substantially the same time that the state information is received (Figure 3, element 2 and Figure 6); and a second server computer system in communication with the first server computer system, wherein the second server computer system is configured to receive user information and responses to the test items from the first server computer system and to deliver test packages to the first server computer system (figure 3 element 1 and Figure 4), as in claims 1, 6 and 7. The first and second server communicate through a distributed network (claims 2) as is shown in col. 65: 1-5. the first server computer including one or more computers configured to perform the functions of a web server, a servlet engine, and an application server and having one or more storage devices (claim 5) is shown in col. 30: 43-45. the second server including one or more computers, one or more data storage devices and a package migration tool configured to format the test packages prior to delivery to the first server computer system (claim 8) wherein the package migration tool is further configured to manage the use of subsequent versions of the test package (claim 9), see the test packaging description starting at col. 28: 4. The second server computer further configured to score the responses to the test item is shown in at least col. 5: 49-51.

With respect to claims 13 and 20, Kershaw further teaches the method of administering the examination including: synchronizing an initial state object on a server and one or more testing stations in communication with the server, wherein the initial state object comprises the time within which the examination must be completed and the test items to be presented to the user; delivering a plurality of test items to the one or more testing stations; displaying the plurality of testing items to the user and recording the user's responses and delivering to the server a changed state object comprising the time elapsed, the test items presented to the user, and the user's responses to the test items at substantially the same time that a triggering event occurs on the testing station, wherein the triggering event comprises the user providing a response to a test item, see the detailed description of the test delivery system starting in col. 30: 37 (note language taken from claim 13, but substantially similar features occur in claim 20 and can be found within the same citation). Further, upon the failure of the testing station, the initial

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state object and the changed state objects stored in the server are used to recreate the examination on the testing station at the point of the examination where the failure occurred (see figure 60), as in claims 19 and 21.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 3, 4, 11, 12, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kershaw (US 5565316) in view of Miller (US 7099620). Kershaw does not explicitly teach the use of a distributed network, specifically the internet (claims 3 and 4) or the specific types of tests that the system is intended to deliver (examiner notes, that the tests of Kershaw are presumably linear, but this is not explicitly recited), specifically failing to state that the test is either linear (claims 11 and 17) or adaptive (claims 12 and 18). Miller teaches an online testing system which distributes tests using the internet, see col. 2:2 and allows for both linear and adaptive testing, see col. 3: 1-9. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the features of Miller into the system of Kershaw so as to allow for both adaptive and linear tests, and to provide for a broader distribution of tests through the internet.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to the prior art of Pfenninger have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

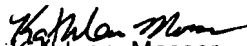
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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kathleen Mosser whose telephone number is (571) 272-4435. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on (571) 272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Kathleen Mosser
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3714

September 27, 2007